

Part of letter Feb 9th 1848 part of letter, just part

I received a letter yesterday from Francis Jackson, stating that the Anti Slavery Society's Treasury was empty & asking me to contribute something. I am willing, but for the present I cannot see how I can give any thing - what I may do by & bye I cannot now say - I am extremely sorry that things are in such a state and hope that others would^{do} that which I would gladly do if possible - Do you not admire the stand which Palfrey has taken - and especially his speech - of course he differs from the no voting party or Disunionist but he is honest upright and independent - and then what a compliment he pays Douglass - Douglass was here last Sunday and spoke both afternoon and evening - he has improved very much - as we have no service in the afternoon or evening only one a day for the present on account of Mr Weiss's health, but I hope we shall not have but one all the time, & when I am trying to bring about and have some hopes of succeeding this makes us but one of being Anti Sabbatharian; Mr Weiss & myself both went to hear him - Mr Weiss liked him exceedingly, said that every word was true, moreover went up & shook hands & spoke to him and subscribed for his paper - just think of it - a Rev (no I won't call him Rev, for he told me he did not like to be called such) going to Anti Slavery Meetings and subscribing for an Anti Slavery Paper, on the Sabbath.

You dont know how very pious the Orthodox have become of late and the more especially since the Anti Sabbath Circular is out - A few weeks since several persons were taken up and fined for dancing Saturday night, at one of the houses of the same at the Depot - it was under an old Statute which is still in existence, for breaking Saturday evening - the same law prevents Concerts Social Gatherings &c forth - Well last Saturday Evening the Dequins had a Concert, the Orthodox tried to prevent it - the Revised Statutes examined and Judge Prescott asked if he would institute a complaint to which he told them it would be time enough to answer them when they made it - Mr Mass & myself went - what a laugh some of our friends have had - what a joke it would have been to have put him up in the Jail and what a glorious sight to have seen his whole Parish wending their way up there the next morning to hear him preach - It is no go - the Orthodox "might as well hang up their fiddle - their jig is up" - they think its an awful thing to have but one service on the Sabbath - before I forget it, I would say I read the Circular as well as Garrisons remarks to Mr Thornton my father in Law - he was very attentive & shortly after I finished he broke silence as follows - "those have been my sentiments for more than forty years, but I should not the language to explain them, and if I am well and

nothing prevents, I mean to attend it" ^{the Convention} He went
also to hear Douglass and admire him much.
In speaking of Mr Weiss, I would say that he ^{has} sur-
passed our anticipations - he is bold and fearless -
last Sunday he prayed most fervently for the
Slave, and ^{said} that our Professors must be made
manifest by the truthful Sincerity of our earnest
works - that very pious people were apt to imagine
salvation but would not raise a finger to
work it out - he also has preached strongly
against all forms & ceremonies, and against
War and Slavery - and notwithstanding all this
he is a universal favorite - his wife is also an
excellent woman - kind, amiable, talented
and encouraging to him in his reformatory
views - The Lecture Association has flourished fine,
Rev Geo W Briggs of Plymouth gave us a fine lecture on
Monday evening - came out boldly against Slavery,
War and even human Governments - his subject
was "George Fox" - We have but two more lectures one
from W H Channing next week & one from Mr Garrison
week after - This makes out the same number
as last year eighteen in all - The Lyceum were obliged
to reduce their price & now say it will not pay, but
they determined to break us down and now that
they have advertised four more lectures than
we have I have thought best to stop, leaving
them to pay for four more than we do, & they ^{having to pay} ~~pay~~
about \$27 or \$28 each lecture will rather perplex
them - Don't you think I have managed adroitly,

I don't know how the Academy flourishes - Several
of your old Scholars told me they did not like
and wished you back - Phipps got provoked
with Arthur for some little carelessness and
struck him on his head - Daniel has taken
him out of school - he says no other boy is fit
to teach school - Willie don't think Phipps was
right - I told him long ago to beware of an other boy
but he heeded me not - Gilbert has come out of
jail and returned to his father - he told his
mother he had soberly, and religiously, resolved
to do better - he does not go out much - comes in
to see me & I try to encourage him - his wife has
been to see him several times & I expect they will
eventually live together again - Keate is still in
Philadelphia - Mrs Thornton has just spent a
week with us and is much better - Josey has
had the Chicken Pox very bad, but has recovered
leaving two or three pits on his forehead - all the
other little cousins have had it, and Thornton Boys
has the Measles now - which I suppose Josey will
probably have in a few days - Daniels Family
are all well and so is Fanny & all the rest
of us - It has been fine sketching & I have im-
proved it - how I wish you were here so I could give
you a ride - please tell Deborah to write me one
of her "Stupid" letters also give her my love which
you may do to the others, and now hoping to hear
from you before long I remain as I have and
ever hope to be your sincere friend Joseph Ricketson

Ms. A. 9. 2. 24. 5